

1 SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ACCESSING READERS AND OTHER I/O
2 DEVICES BY PROGRAMS

3 A B S T R A C T

4 The present invention allows program specific configuration
5 of several physical or logical readers, or other I/O
6 devices, by using a configuration tool and a reader access
7 layer. In an example embodiment, a configuration tool
8 allows, a specifying access rights and priority rights for
9 each single reader in conjunction with each single program.
10 A reader access layer communicates with each program
11 directly, calls up the reader access list for the requesting
12 program, checks the access rights and the priority order for
13 the available readers and returns a response to the
14 requesting program containing information for accessing the
15 active reader with the highest available priority. It
16 secures previously defined access rights and access
17 priorities between readers and programs defined in the
18 reader access list remain unchanged independently when new
19 readers are added.